



# JOINT TASK FORCE BRAVO

## Who we are

Joint Task Force Bravo is one of three task forces under the U.S. Southern Command, based out of Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras. JTF-Bravo operates a forward, all weather C-5 capable air base and organizes multilateral exercises and support, in cooperation with partner nations, counter transnational organized crime, humanitarian assistance/disaster relief efforts and the development of partner capacities, to promote regional cooperation and security in Central America, South America and the Caribbean.

## Mission

JTF-Bravo conducts and enables SOUTHCOM OAs across all domains, in support of USC agencies and partner nations in the CENTAM JOA, to enhance regional security and defend the U.S. homeland and national interests. On order, JTF-B will deploy for crisis response as directed by USSOUTHCOM within the area of operations.

## Social Media



@JointTaskForceBravo

**59,160**



@jtfbravo

**8,412**



@jtfbravo

**9,517**



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# JOINT TASK FORCE-BRAVO

## FACTS SHEET

Joint Task Force-Bravo operates out of Soto Cano Air Base, a Honduran military installation located in the department of Comayagua, Honduras. It is made up of more than 500 U.S. military and U.S. and Honduran civilian personnel.

JTF-Bravo works to forge relationships within Central America to foster security, stability, and prosperity in the Americas through the practice of a variety of missions, ranging from supporting U.S. government operations, to the fight against transnational organized crime, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and the development of partner nation capacities.

The Caribbean, Central America, South America, and the United States share common security interests and concerns. JTF-Bravo is committed to promoting our mutual interest of safety and progress, as reflected in our motto "Progress through Unity."

### JTF-Bravo Supporting Commands

- The **612 Air Base Squadron (612th ABS)** operates a C-5 capable airfield and provides base operations support, air traffic control, weather, fire rescue, logistics and civil engineering for JTF-Bravo and operations within the entire USSOUTHCOM area of operations.
- The **Army Forces Battalion (ARFOR)** executes command and control of JTF-Bravo operations within the Central American area of responsibility, in support of missions against transnational organized crime, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and fostering the development of partner nation capacity. The battalion includes the Medical Element and the Military Police Detachment.
- The **1st Battalion, 228 Aviation Regiment (1-228 AVN)** conducts general aviation and medical evacuation operations in support of JTF-Bravo and U.S. Southern Command operations in the region. The 1-228 operates U.S. Army UH-60L and HH-60 Black Hawks, as well as CH-47 Chinook helicopters.

Please visit our website for additional information here:

<https://www.jtfb.southcom.mil>

For recent images and videos visit:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/JTF-B>



## ARMY FORCES BATTALION

The ARFOR Battalion Headquarters mission is to provide Soto Cano with base support services, joint reception, staging, onward movement, and integration to rotational forces, and operational support to JTF-B.

The units that enable the mission are the Headquarters Support Company, Combat Support Hospital, Civil Affairs Company, Military Police Company, Medical Element, Financial Services, and Contracting Services.



The **Medical Element** consists of Soldiers and civilians, along with Honduran professionals working together to provide a wide range of health care services to U.S. troops stationed at Soto Cano Air Base.

The clinic provides routine clinical care, emergency medical care, dental services, pharmacy, patient administration, laboratory, veterinarian care for military working dogs, preventive medicine, radiology, behavioral health services and physical therapy.

This team of medical professionals also conducts missions throughout Central and South America. The Medical and Surgical Readiness Training Exercises provide an opportunity for our service members to test their expeditionary capabilities while providing needed care to those in need, in conjunction with our partners.

The **Military Police Company** conducts installation security, force protection and security support for personnel recovery, search and rescue, counter transnational organized crime, disaster response, noncombatant evacuation order, and humanitarian/civic assistance in support of JTF-Bravo operations and U.S. Southern Command operations throughout Central America.







The **Civil Affairs Company** is made up of teams located throughout Central America that work in communities on-the-ground to build and strengthen partner nation capacity.

The team also supports projects and donations funded through the USSOUTHCOM Humanitarian Assistance Program.

## 612th Air Base Squadron

The 612th Air Base Squadron provides essential airfield services to maintain Soto Cano Air Base as a strategic, C-5M Super Galaxy capable airfield in Central America.

The squadron directly supports the 1-228 Aviation Regiment and JTF-Bravo, the Honduran Air Force, transient aircraft operations, and other deployed aviation units.

The squadron is organized into four flights, with expertise spanning air traffic control, meteorology, airfield and radar system maintenance, transient aircraft services, vehicle maintenance, airfield rescue and firefighting, base civil engineer support, supply, airfield management, small air terminal, and aerospace ground equipment.

The Fire Emergency Services team hosts CENTAM SMOKE, a multinational training exercise with Central American participants, to hone firefighting capabilities and enhance partner nation capacity.





## 1st Battalion, 228 Aviation Regiment

The 1st Battalion, 228 Aviation Regiment supports U.S. Southern Command engagements and security cooperation strategy under Army South, providing heavy lift, medical evacuation, and general aviation support, spanning the joint operations area as part of JTF-Bravo.

It is a composite battalion with UH-60L and HH-60L Blackhawks, and CH-47F Chinooks, providing airlift and evacuation capabilities to the region.



Typical missions conducted by this one-of-a-kind battalion include countering transnational organized crime, counter-narcotics, aerial firefighting, humanitarian assistance/disaster relief, theater security cooperation, building partner capacity, medical evacuation, limited search and rescue, and air movement of people, equipment and supplies throughout Central America and the Caribbean.

The battalion has also assisted partners in large fire emergency operations through the use of Bambi buckets and humanitarian assistance throughout Central America and the Caribbean.



## Interagency cooperation

JTF-Bravo maintains a close relationships with international organizations as well as governmental and non-governmental agencies from the U.S. and Central America to distribute supplies, medical equipment, school supplies, and donations.

Additionally, JTF-Bravo supports the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and U.S. Transportation Command with the Denton Program, which facilitates the transportation of humanitarian assistance to local organizations in a variety of countries using military cargo aircraft at no cost, on a space-available basis.







**BIOGRAPHY**  
**STEVEN GVENTER**  
**COLONEL, U.S. ARMY**  
**COMMANDER**  
**JOINT TASK FORCE-BRAVO**

Colonel Steven E. Gventer is a native of Grapevine, Texas and a graduate of Baylor University with a BS in Education. In 1998, after three years as a high school teacher and coach, he joined the Army and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in Armor from Officer Candidate School. At Camp Casey, Korea, he served as an Assistant Brigade Intelligence Officer and Tank Platoon Leader. In 1999, he was assigned to the 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, and served as a Tank and Support Platoon Leader and Battalion Logistics Officer.

In 2003, he assumed command of Charlie Co, 2-8 Cavalry and deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), commanding for 19 months, 12 in Sadr City. His follow-on included Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General (CG) 1st Cavalry Division, transitioning to Aide-de-Camp to the CG of Multinational Corps-Iraq deployed to Baghdad for the entirety of 2006.

In 2007, he reported to Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where he stood up and commanded the Army's first Warrior Transition Company and later served as Executive Officer to the Commanding General of the Warrior Transition Command in MEDCOM.

As a Major, his assignments included Battalion Operations Officer (S3) in the 1st Cavalry Division, deployed to Maysan Province, Iraq and then as the S3, 3rd Armored Brigade, 1st CAV. In 2013, while assigned to NATO Joint Forces Command-Naples, he served as the Executive Officer to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, a French General.

In 2015, Colonel Gventer assumed command of Cougar Squadron, 2d Squadron, 2d Cavalry Regiment, a Stryker Infantry Battalion, and led them through NATO training events and Operation Atlantic Resolve North in the Baltics. In 2017, the squadron became the first NATO Enhanced Forward Presence Battle Group based in northeastern Poland as a Multinational Battle Group of U.S., UK, and Romanian Soldiers under command of the Polish 15th Mechanized Brigade. In 2018, he served as Grizzly 07, the Senior Cavalry and Recon Trainer at the Joint Multinational Training Center, Hohenfels, Germany. He was the Chief of Operations Branch, Army Futures Command prior to assuming command of Joint Task Force-Bravo.



Colonel Gventer is a Distinguished Graduate of the U.S. Army War College Class of '19 and member of the Advanced Strategic Art Program. His schools include Armor Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Australian Command and Staff College and others. His awards include the Bronze Star with V - "Valor" Device, the Bronze Star with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Purple Heart with one Oak Leaf Cluster and others.

He is married to Dr. Celeste Ward Gventer, a former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense and President of the Defense Security Cooperation University (DSCU). They have a son Nate, who lives in Michigan, and a German Shepherd named Hildy. Steve is also an Eagle Scout who swims, plays basketball, dabbles in Triathlons, and watches football.

